

S/N 10/676,135

Office Action dated April 4, 2006

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Claim 1 is hereby amended. Claim 12 is new.

Amendment of claim 1 is supported by page 7, lines 5-9 and Figures 1-4. New claim 12 is supported by page 7, lines 32-35, page 9, lines 25-27, and Figures 2B and 4B.

Claim 1 was rejected as being anticipated by Sano (US 5,952,714). Applicants traverse this rejection. Sano does not disclose a solid-state imaging device, including a plurality of wiring made of thin metal plate leads provided on one surface of the base, wherein at least a part in a thickness direction of a side edge face extending from the internal terminal portion to the external terminal portion of the thin metal plate leads are embedded in a base, with a bottom surface of an external terminal portion exposed from a bottom surface of the base, as required by claim 1. Rather, Sano teaches a structure including outer leads (55, rejection equates to the claimed external terminal portion) that project entirely from the package (50). Sano does not suggest that at least a part in a thickness direction of an entire side edge face of the outer lead (55) is embedded in the upper frame (50a) of the package (50), as required by claim 1. See Figure 8. The structure required by claim 1, including an entire side edge face from the internal terminal portion to the external terminal portion, effectively suppresses curling and warping of the base. In contrast, the outer lead (55) taught by Sano does not increase the rigidity of the package (50). Rather, Sano teaches suppression of warping by use of a relatively thick package. Therefore, the device taught by Sano does not provide an outer lead (55) that is able to provide both increased rigidity of the package and electrical connection to the outside. Favorable reconsideration of claim 1 is requested.

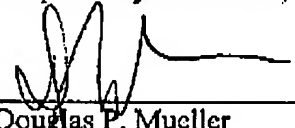
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In view of the above, favorable reconsideration in the form of a notice of allowance is requested. Any questions regarding this communication can be directed to the undersigned attorney, Douglas P. Mueller, Reg. No. 30,300, at (612)455-3804.

Respectfully Submitted,

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